

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 were previously pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 14, 16-17 and 21 are amended and new claims 24-30 are added. Claims 1-30 are currently pending in the application.

Within the Office Action dated May 3, 2001, it is stated that:

- 1) claims 1-4, 14-18 and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S. C 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,231,999 issued to Schroettner;
- 2) claims 1-4 and 6-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S. C 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,384,030 issued to Hirzel;
- 3) claims 1-4, 6-7 and 9-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S. C 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,062,231 issued to De Laforcade and that
- 4) claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schroettner or Hirzel or De Laforcade.

The Applicant respectfully traverse the rejection of the claims on the grounds that none of the prior art made of record teaches or describes a system, device or method for parting hair which includes a template structure. The template structure of the instant invention is configured with patterned edge. The template is held against a section of hair and the patterned edge is traced through the hair to create a part within the hair which resembles the patterned edge. The structural features and function of the template structure are clearly recited in the original claims. However, the independent claims 1, 14 and 21 have been amended to more clearly point the features and function of the template structure.

The claimed features provide structural and manipulative differences over the prior art made of record (U.S. Patent No. 5,231,999 issued to Schroettner, U.S. Patent No. 5,384,030 issued to Hirzel and U.S. Patent No. 6,062,231 issued to De Laforcade).

Please find a clean copy of the claims incorporating the proposed amendments as stated above. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, or needs to schedule a telephonic the interview, please call the undersigned at (650) 833-0160) to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: _____

By: _____
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